

Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph extending from line 29 of page 3 to line 16 of page 4, as follows:

In the illustrative embodiment of Figure 1, the load indicating thread-forming fastener 10 generally includes a fastener 12 (e.g., the above-mentioned "Taptite" fastener) and a permanent piezoelectric polymer film transducer 14 (e.g., of the type disclosed in the above-mentioned U.S. Patent No. 4,846,001 ~~4,864,001~~, issued to Kibblewhite) attached to one end. The fastener 12 includes a head 16, which can be suitably engaged by a tool (not shown) for applying torque to the fastener 12, and a thread-forming body portion 18. As disclosed in U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/264,877 (Kibblewhite) and International Application No. PCT/US02/03920 (Kibblewhite), the transducer 14 can further include a two-dimensional high-density bar code (not shown) applied to the top electrode 20 of the transducer 14, for purposes of facilitating the subsequent steps taken to obtain an indication of tensile load, stress, elongation or other characteristic of the fastener 12 during a tightening operation, or at various other times during the service life of the fastener 12, as will be discussed more fully below.